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[Document U.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
JANUARY 7, 1868.

Read and ordered to be printed.

By order,
MILTON Y. KIDD,
Chief Clerk.

MEMORIAL

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

Maryland State Asylum

FOR INEBRIATES.

ANNAPOLIS:
WM. THOMPSON OF R., PRINTER.

1868.

MEMORIAL.

To his Excellency, the Governor and the

Honorable the General Assembly of Maryland:

GENTLEMEN:—The memorialists of the present appeal are the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Asylum for Inebriates.

The Institution was incorporated by your Honorable Body in the year 1860, and charged with certain duties in the matter of moral reform necessary in the offensive and oppressive relations that drunkenness bear to society. The appeal in this behalf comes up from three-fourths of the families of the State. It is for the relief of their unfortunate relatives and friends who are addicted to the *habit*, which in consideration of its fearful results must be termed the *vice* of intemperance.

The relief desired and applied for in the present instance, it is within the power of the General Assembly to grant without any material effect upon the finances of the State, and may result in benefit in the protection it may afford certain property of the State which is now in a useless condition, and becoming dilapidated in the want of proper care.

The fund arising from the issue of licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors will be amply sufficient for the support of the Institution. An appropriation of thirty thousand dollars will supply the necessary buildings to commence with. All further needs will be supplied by the license fund. This seems to be an appropriate application of the money paid into the State Treasury on account of its permission to sell the article by which the trouble and difficulty are produced.

By consenting to this application of your memorialists, your Honorable Body will do a service for the State, in the

relief it may afford to a large number of its population, which cannot be done in any other way. It is estimated from facts that are known, that more than three-fourths of the families of the State are either directly, or indirectly affected by the habit of drunkenness, confirmed in sons, fathers, husbands, brothers and other relatives.

It is the sentiment of the best medical minds of the country, and of other countries, that drunkenness is a disease that affects the physical, as well as the moral nature of mankind. It is a disease that must be cured by the confinement of the subject of its influence, and preventing him from all association with others of the same condition, and the application of such remedies as are indicated by the symptoms to be treated. This is the only certain method of curing the disease. In the absence of the means of applying the remedies, thousands of our fellow citizens fall victims each year to the merciless ravages of the destroyer.

The managers feel that they are but the mouth-piece of more than three-fourths of the population of the State, including thousands of women and children, mothers, wives, sisters, who are suffering greatly from the effects of intemperance. With your assistance they may possess the power of removing, or ameliorating a considerable proportion of the suffering produced by the evil. On this behalf, multitudes of the sufferers represented by your memorialists, together with your memorialists, are calling for the relief which it is in your power to grant, and which if granted, while the State must experience in an enlarged degree the resulting benefits, it may never feel the pressure of the outlay it requires.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. DR. GEO. C. M. ROBERTS,
President.

REV. JOHN N. McJILTON,
Vice President.

CHARLES C. CORKRAN,
Treasurer.

J. R. W. DUNBAR, M.D.,
Corresponding Secretary.

WILLIAM COLTON,
Recording Secretary.